

US009419378B2

# (12) United States Patent

# (54) MODULAR ELECTRONIC BUILDING SYSTEMS WITH MAGNETIC INTERCONNECTIONS AND METHODS OF USING THE SAME

(71) Applicant: littleBits Electronics Inc., New York,

NY (US)

(72) Inventor: Aya Bdeir, New York, NY (US)

(73) Assignee: littleBits Electronics Inc., New York,

NY (US)

(\*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this

patent is extended or adjusted under 35

U.S.C. 154(b) by 0 days.

This patent is subject to a terminal dis-

claimer.

(21) Appl. No.: 14/696,922

(22) Filed: Apr. 27, 2015

(65) Prior Publication Data

US 2015/0236444 A1 Aug. 20, 2015

#### Related U.S. Application Data

- (63) Continuation of application No. 13/593,891, filed on Aug. 24, 2012, now Pat. No. 9,019,718.
- (60) Provisional application No. 61/527,860, filed on Aug. 26, 2011.
- (51) Int. Cl. #05K 1/11 (2006.01) #05K 1/14 (2006.01) (Continued)
- (52) **U.S. CI.** CPC ...... *H01R 13/6205* (2013.01); *H01R 11/30* (2013.01)
- (58) **Field of Classification Search** USPC ............... 361/792, 728–730, 807, 809, 679.01,

(10) Patent No.: US 9,419,378 B2 (45) Date of Patent: \*Aug. 16, 2016

361/688, 704, 707, 715, 716; 439/625, 626, 439/660, 701, 527, 535, 78, 79, 108 See application file for complete search history.

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Primary Examiner — Hung S Bui

## (57) ABSTRACT

Electrical connectors, electrical modules, and systems are provided. In one aspect, an electrical connector includes a housing defining a side surface, an electrical conductor supported by the housing and including an engagement portion proximate the side surface of the housing. The engagement portion is adapted to engage another electrical conductor of another electrical connector. The connector also includes a magnet supported by the housing proximate the side surface of the housing, a projection extending from the side surface of the housing, and a receptacle defined in the side surface of the housing. In other aspects, an electrical module includes at least one of these electrical connectors. In further aspects, a system includes a plurality of these modules and the modules are selectively couplable together.

## 27 Claims, 16 Drawing Sheets

